

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please amend the claims as shown below. The pending claims are as follows.

1-8. (Canceled)

9. (Previously presented) A transformant

wherein at least one gene expression cassette, comprising a polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene, a promoter and a terminator, has been introduced into a yeast which belongs to any of the genera *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Phaffia*, *Pichia*, *Schizosaccharomyces*, *Schwanniomyces*, *Trichosporon*, and *Yarrowia*, and

wherein the promoter is isolated from *Yarrowia lipolytica* ALK3 gene encoding an n-alkane-inducible cytochrome P450.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously presented) A transformant

wherein at least one gene expression cassette, comprising a polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene, a promoter and a terminator, has been introduced into a yeast which belongs to any of the genera *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Phaffia*, *Pichia*, *Schizosaccharomyces*, *Schwanniomyces*, *Trichosporon*, and *Yarrowia*, and

wherein the promoter is isolated from *Candida maltosa* ALK1 gene encoding an n-alkane-inducible cytochrome P450.

13. (Previously presented) A transformant

wherein at least one gene expression cassette, comprising a polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene, a promoter and a terminator, has been introduced into a yeast which belongs to any of the genera *Candida*, *Hansenula*, *Kluyveromyces*, *Phaffia*, *Pichia*, *Schizosaccharomyces*, *Schwanniomyces*, *Trichosporon*, and *Yarrowia*, and

wherein the terminator is isolated from *Candida maltosa* ALK1 gene encoding an n-alkane-inducible cytochrome P450.

14-17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) An isolated polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene wherein at least one codon CTG is replaced with codon TTA, TTG, CTT, CTC or CTA, and said gene expresses ~~its function~~ a functional polyester synthesis-associated enzyme in a yeast which translates codon CTG into serine.

19. (Previously presented) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 18 which codes for an enzyme isolated from a bacterium.

20. (Original) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 19 wherein said bacterium is *Aeromonas caviae*.

21. (Previously presented) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 20 wherein the enzyme gene isolated from *Aeromonas caviae* is a polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene or a (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene.

22. (Previously presented) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 21 wherein said polyhydroxyalkanoate synthase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:3.

23. (Original) The polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to Claim 21 wherein said (R)-specific enoyl-CoA hydratase gene has the sequence represented by SEQ ID NO:4.

24-25. (Canceled)

26. (Previously presented) A transformant wherein at least one gene expression cassette has been introduced into a yeast, and said gene expression cassette comprises the polyester synthesis-associated enzyme gene according to claim 18.

27. (Previously presented) A method of producing a polyester using the transformant according to claim 26,

which comprises growing said transformant and harvesting a polyester from the resulting culture.

28-30. (Canceled)